

YOUNG AND WISE

BEING AN EXAMPLE OF A BELIEVER

*"Let no man despise thy youth;
but be thou an example of the believers..."*

~ 1 Timothy 4:12

1. Review

- a. Ministry = service (remember: saved and serving are different) – Col 1:2
- b. Choosing a life of ministry is not asceticism nor seeking a job as a pastor
 - i. You will not get paid, it won't save you or get you closer to God – 1Cor 3:16
 - ii. The Lord calls young saints to be stewards, to serve, to be faithful -1Cor 4:1-2
- c. You are not saved a faithful minister, you desire, choose, and walk into it – 1Tim 3:1

2. Choosing to be Old

- a. What's the difference between children and adults (even young adults)?
- b. Wisdom = making right choices according to truth. 1 Cor 14:20, Eph 14
 - i. Choosing a life of ministry, service to the Lord, is a wise choice
 - ii. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, but not the end – Col 1:9
- c. Faithfulness = Continually serving with power, love, and sound mind – 2 Ti 1:7, 3:14
 - i. Walking worthy, taking responsibility, fulfilling your duty/obligation/service
 - ii. To be an elder (grown up) is be faithful ... Titus 1:5-9
- d. *Bishop, deacon, steward, minister, servant, workfellow, yokefellow, companion in labour, fellowsoldier -servant -worker -labourer, fellowship of ministering to the saints*
- e. You don't have to be elder to be saved, but choosing ministry says "I want to be one"
 - i. To be an elder is to be spiritually mature – to be a spiritual grown up.
- f. "I don't want to grow up" = "I don't want to work / make wise choices" - 1Co 3:2, 8:3, 16:15-16 – Choose to be an elder.

3. Young and Wise

- a. Child-like faith is never an instruction in the Bible – Mt 18:1-2
 - i. Children are not closer to God, more spiritual, mature.
 - ii. The greatest are humble servants/ministers -Lk 22:26, Mt 10:24, Mk 10:43-44
- b. 1 Tim 4:12 – Is not a source of pride, but a challenge for a young man to be an elder
- c. Youth is despised for its lack of wisdom and responsibility. Don't be that! – Eph 5:17

4. The Example

- a. In word – Scriptures can make a child wise (become a man) – 2 Tim 3:15-17
- b. In conversation – How does a believer live? Be that example.
- c. In charity – The bond of perfectness (completeness, spiritual adulthood) – Col 3:14
- d. In spirit – Not in your flesh – Gal 5:13-16
- e. In faith – According to the word of God, word of truth, in Christ – Rom 10:17
- f. In purity – Yes, physically, but also doctrinally... with integrity – 1 Tim 3:9
- g. *"Be an example of the believers"* - What does a believer look like? Be that.